

## ***Breaking News***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **County accepting construction bids for Big Bear Zoo**

SAN BERNARDINO- The Special Districts Department will now advertise competitive bids for the construction of the Big Bear Alpine Zoo.

"We are excited to move to the next phase of the zoo project," stated Jeff Rigney, Director of Special Districts. "We thank the Board for their support in the development of this new facility."

The zoo has occupied leased property for the past 54 years with the last six years being on a month-to-month basis. The zoo is being relocated to a property owned by the Special Districts Department within the City of Big Bear Lake's Moonridge business corridor.

The zoo's design features five exhibits (Grizzly Bear, Timber Wolf, Mountain Lion, Black Bear, and Snow Leopard) along with an Administration Building, Snack Bar, Ticket and Gift Shop, and Animal Support Building to be included with various other animal exhibits.

At the end of the bidding process, department staff will return to the Board with a recommendation relative to bids received for construction of the zoo.

Chairman James Ramos was also happy with the progress stating, "We have been working on the zoo relocation project for some time now and I am pleased to know that we are one step closer to building a new home to care for injured, orphaned, or imprinted wild animals."

More information regarding this item can be found in the October 6<sup>th</sup> agenda at <http://cob-sire.sbcounty.gov/sirepub/>.

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